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WEEKLY PEOPLE.

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PRICE TWO CENTS.

THAT WEEKLY CIRCUS.

Ben Tillet, the Barker For Compers and Kangaroos, An Expensive Graftor.

IS THIS "ENGLISH?"

At the Meeting of the C. F. L. Tillet's Accounts Are Overhauled—Figures Produce a Storm—His Incompetence Openly Admitted—The Class Struggle Is "Nobly Waged" by Resolutions in Favor of the "Journal," Which Boomed the Strike-Quellin Militia in Albany—Also by Suggestions to "Petition" Odell—Also by Hanging to the Skirts of the Tammany-Fakir Prince Who Voted for Increased Armory Appropriations—Also by Airing Conflicts Between "Sister Organizations."

Ben Tillet, the fraternal delegate from England to the A. F. of Hell, who was received with a great blare of trumpets by the Kangaroos, is true to his career as a grafted on the working class. This was shown yesterday in Central Fakir Union.

Some time ago that organization decided to engage Ben Tillet to organize the longshoremen of this city. When Tillet returned to this city from his tour of the country last week, Harry Robinson, organizer of the A. F. of Hell in this city, sent a message to the headquarters of the Longshoremen union inquiring who would pay the expenses. In answer, Robinson received a check of \$35, being one week's wages—\$21—and "expense" allowance—\$14—generally paid to A. F. of Hell organizers.

Tillet then informed Robinson that he would only remain in this city for three days, during which time he would use all his endeavors in the work of organizing the dock laborers.

During these three days, Robinson said at yesterday's meeting, he paid out \$20.25 for Tillet's living expenses; and to the surprise of Robinson, when he asked Tillet what he (Tillet) expected in the way of remuneration, was told that an additional \$20 would not be considered too much.

This made a total expenditure of \$40.05 for his "three days' endeavors," which consisted of a 15 minutes speech at one dock meeting in the open air.

Were it not for the advice of a friend of Robinson, Robinson would have paid Tillet. Acting upon the advice given, however, he had decided to bring the matter before the body.

This statement created a profound sensation. Delegate Wolf, Kangaroo, of Cigarmaker's Union No. 90, thought the bill ought to be paid without any further question. It should serve as a warning against the importation of any more fraternal delegates. Delegate Waldering, of Bohemian political advertisement celebrity and, of course, a Kangaroo, representing an organization existing only in his imagination, opposed the payment of the bill. He said it appeared that Tillet had been breeding organizations throughout the country. Reports to that effect had come from Cincinnati and other towns. In New York, he charged Typographical Union No. 6, fifty dollars and expenses for five minutes' speech. He thought Tillet ought to be given to understand that America is no milch cow. Waldering evidently felt there were enough calves in America to milk that cow.

Delegate George Warner, of the Ma-chi-nist, Republican Aldermanic candidate and land speculator, complained that the American fraternal delegates of the British Trades Union Congress, had to pay their way all through their English sojourn and returned only with a cigar holder; while the Americans treated the English fraternal delegates royally and bestowed costly tokens upon them. Every town the English delegates visit reception committees entertain them with magnificence and provide for them in every way. For instance, one of the previous delegation, when they were at Washington, were directed to a hotel and told to order whatever they desired.

After a three days' stay, a bill of \$250 had to be paid by the American Federation of Labor. At this quite a number of the delegates present chucked with envy.

A motion was then passed to refuse to pay the additional twenty dollars, and inform Ben Tillet that he was a sufficient compensation for a fifteen minutes oration that has not accomplished anything.

Noble Wages of Class Struggle.
Delegate Fitzgerald, of the Letter Carriers Association, a chameleon politician, thanked the Central Fakir Union for its endorsement of the Salary Equalization Bill, now pending before Congress. He lauded the "yellow journal" for its "splendid editorials" and cartoons which assisted them strongly

in their endeavors; and moved that a vote of thanks be given that fake sheet.

Delegate Bolton, single taxer, Democrat and fusionist, and Democrat Campbell, of Big Six, Kangaroo Marshall of the last May Day parade, in a speech complimentary to the sheet mentioned, seconded the motion. The thanks were given without a protest from the Kangaroos, despite their pretended opposition to yellow journalism. The vote was unanimous.

Upon a motion, Engineer Hoar, whose eyesight was injured a few years ago during an assault upon him by Contractor Pucci, was granted the floor. He made a pathetic appeal to assist him to get justice. He said that when the case came up for trial, the jury found Pucci guilty of assault; but Judge Cowling upon the request of a number of prominent citizens, suspended sentence. When he (Hoar) objected to such a procedure, Cowling asked him why he had not taken the \$500 which Pucci offered him to settle the case. To this Hoar said he replied:

"I do not want money; I want justice!" Contractor Pucci is now, according to scot free of a charge which had it been preferred against a poor workingman, would have landed him in State's prison.

Delegate Kelley, of the Theatrical Stage Employees' Union, and a Tammany politician, made a motion to request Hoar to make an affidavit embodying his case, before a notary public; the same to be forwarded to Gov. Odell, with a request that he remove Cowling for neglect of public duty. An amendment of Delegate Farley, of the Tile Layers, and a Tammany politician, to place the matter in the hands of Assemblyman Sam Prince, who should seek to impeach Cowling. The amendment was adopted.

This matter gave Delegate Bolton, who is on the alert to promote the political aspirations of Judge William Gaynor, an opportunity to boost his employer as the workman's friend, who could not be influenced by corporations in the discharge of his duties. To his astonishment, Delegate Kiss, of the Pilot's Association, put a spook in the Gaynor boom, by stating that he never heard that Gaynor had ever done anything especially beneficial to the workingman; but he knew that Gaynor was very prompt to issue mandamus in behalf of political and other criminals, like in the Hochstim case.

Upon a motion of Delegate Stewart, of the Eccentric and Stationary Engineers' Union, the floor was granted to McMahon, a member of his organization, who stated that the Brewers' Union was endeavoring to have the members of his organization discharged in the various union breweries in Greater New York; and that last week they demanded his discharge from the Kohler Brewing Company, unless he joined the Brewers' National Union, which he refused to do.

A committee consisting of Delegates Kelley, Fitzgerald and Kiss were appointed to inform the Kohler Brewing Company, that their employees were acting individually; and that they should retain McMahon in his position. Judging from appearances there is a merry war on between the trade-unionists and the industrialists.

EMPTY SARCASM.
Pure and Simple Unionist Has No Other Remedy for Existing Conditions.

Chicago, Ill., Feb. 3.—"A man should be dragged out and shot when he has reached the age of forty-five. He is dead timber in the pathway of progress under modern industrial conditions. I suggest that a law be drafted and submitted to the Legislature for passage which shall provide that all persons be shot at the age of forty-five years unless they can show that they have enough property saved up to keep them during the rest of their natural lives."

This is the way the serious question of an age limit for mechanics and laborers was put by one of the speakers at the meeting of the Chicago Fakir Union of Labor. It was said that some of the railroad companies and large manufacturing establishments now refuse to hire a man more than thirty-five years old, and that mechanics are discharged when forty-five years old because they are too old.

Machinists, carpenters and men in all trades testified that a similar age limit was being enforced by various classes of employers.

Robust men in the prime of life told of the subterfuges they were compelled to resort to in securing employment if a few grey hairs had made their appearance. Many confess to having dyed their hair time and again and to give the youthful look necessary to get work. Those who had a tinge of gray in their beards said they had to keep clean shaven faces to avoid detection of their age. Those who wore eye glasses said that they were compelled to leave their glasses at home to hold their jobs.

Delegates jumped to their feet to tell of instances where the best mechanics had been discharged in the prime of life because of their age. After giving several instances in the machinists trade William F. Melican suggested shooting at the age of forty-five as a measure that would probably meet with the approval of the large employers.

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Big Express Incorporation.
The United Express Companies, incorporated at Trenton with a capital of \$10,000,000, is said not to indicate or represent a union of the large express companies.

'CITIZEN'S UNION' EXPOSED

OLD PARTY POLITICIANS RUN UP AGAINST THE BUZZ SAW.

Pennsylvania S. L. P. Tears Mask Off Organization "Opposed to Bosses and Politics"—"The Greatest Thing on Earth" Turns Out to Be the Smallest.

Turtle Creek, Pa., Feb. 8.—A meeting of the newly organized branch of the Socialist Labor Party at Turtle Creek was to have been held on the night of February 7 at Black's Hall, but owing to a misunderstanding among the organization styling itself "Citizens' Union" had possession of the hall.

The party members gathered at the hall, and when they learned that they could not have the hall for a meeting were greatly surprised. After consulting among themselves and being invited by two or three of the "Citizens" present they decided to remain and see the doings of this organization, and, if possible, have a good, healthy discussion; as some of the S. L. P. speakers, Jackson, Markley and Schulberg, were present.

In single file the freaks and would-be officeholders gathered; and at 8:45, with about 20 "Citizens" and the same number of S. L. P. men present, the president, known in Turtle Creek as "Turkey Johnson," called the meeting to order.

"Turkey Johnson" called for the reading of the minutes of the last meeting. They were read. Then the "president" decided to dispense with the roll call.

The "President" then called for new members. He was requested to and he slowly and impressively did read the declaration of "principles" of the "Citizens' Union." That "declaration" and those "principles" were confined to an "attack" "agin" all political bosses.

Up until now the meeting was progressing with as much enthusiasm as there is at a funeral.

Comrade Markley arose and asked if it would not be a good thing to discuss those "principles" for the benefit of the workers present.

"Turkey Johnson" replied by stating that the "Citizens' Union" was over a year old and they had finished discussing their "platform."

Markley replied by stating that there were political organizations twelve, fifty and a hundred years old, and those organizations still had their platforms discussed.

Then a gentleman who occupied the most prominent chair in the room, and made a living by pounding a pulpit, nursing a "paint brush" that decorated his face, arose and through the president asked Markley if he was a citizen of the Borough of Turtle Creek, at the same time telling Markley that "The Citizens' Union" was established for the special purpose of bettering the conditions of the people in this borough."

Markley replied by stating that there is no one who would like to see the people of the Borough of Turtle Creek, State of Pennsylvania and of the United States, more happy and satisfied than he. By the people Markley meant the only class that is of use to society—the working class.

Then a long, thin man unwound himself, and when he finished his thin face looked down upon us and he proceeded to make a short speech. He told of the small birth of the Republican party, the greatest party in the country to-day. He insinuated that he was one of the great men that suffered from the "birth pangs," and he looked it. Then he told us that in Turtle Creek three great men one year and a half ago started the "Citizens' Union" that is destined to be the greatest thing on earth.

"WE TOLERATE NO POLITICS IN OUR ORGANIZATION." This organization has nothing to do with politics, but only aims to help the people of Turtle Creek."

Then Comrade Schulberg asked if it was possible to separate the politics of boroughs, cities and States? "Is it not a fact that the working class will not have what is of right theirs until they capture the political power of the entire nation?" At the same time I want to say," continued Schulberg, "that the long gentleman that just spoke does not know the meaning of the words politics, and he certainly should explain how it is possible to have a political organization without politics."

President "Turkey Johnson" at this point told us to retire, but the "long gentleman" interrupted by insisting that he be allowed to answer. He answered by stating that he knew what politics was before Schulberg was born and he would meet Schulberg any time at any place to debate. Markley at once accepted the challenge in behalf of the S. L. P. and wanted a date set for the debate. The president insisted that we leave the hall. The preacher ran toward the long man and whispered something in his ear. The preacher was all excited and was handling his paint brush in the same way a little girl handles a cow she is milking.

All of the S. L. P. men and their friends moved toward the door. Markley tried to get the name of the "long gentleman" in order to fix a date for the debate. He would not give his name, advised not to by the preacher. Comrade Jackson said: "Come on Markley, he is crawling."

Then this long man looking at Jackson, striking an important attitude, exclaimed: "Did you ever hear of a

THE S. L. P. ON TOP!

It Wins Out in Detroit in Its Fight for Free Speech.

Detroit, Mich., Feb. 11.—The appeal of the Socialist Labor Party, Section Detroit, from the decision rendered by Judge Sellers fining Meiko Meyer \$50 for speaking on the Campus on the night of ex-Governor Pingree's funeral, has just been sustained. The appeal was tried in the Recorder's Court, and the jury rendered a verdict of "not guilty."

This decision comes at a time that throws much light on the original sentence, which has now been reversed.

Meyer was arrested by orders of Police Commissioner Frank C. Andrews. This is the same Andrews, who, as Vice-President of the City Savings Bank has just been discovered as having appropriated \$1,600,000 of the bank's funds: for this offence he was arraigned last night on the charge of "wilfully, fraudulently and knowingly" appropriating said funds. The fraud came out yesterday through his failure. In failing he not only pulls down the Savings Bank, but endangers the financial standing of Frank C. Pingree, the President of the bank, ex-Gov. Pingree's brother, and who is a shoe manufacturer himself. The Andrews-Pingree combine played the political racket in aid of their business. Of course, they were "Labor Friends." The only opposition they met was from the Socialist Labor Party, which they hated proportionally, and whose speakers they sought to victimize. The acquittal of the S. L. P. speaker Meyer and the simultaneous shameful collapse of the capitalist Andrews, who had instigated his arrest, are interesting coincidences.

"VOLKSZEITUNG" BLACK-EYED.

Beten by a Socialist in Its Attempt to Prevent Free Speech.

Yesterday Judge Steckler of the Supreme Court handed down a decision ordering the re-instatement of August Gleifor into the Workmen's Sick and Death Benefit Fund. This is a black-eye both to the Stahl-Ring, which is seeking to run that Fund for their own benefit, and to the "Volkszeitung" in the machinery of which Ring is a part.

August Gleifor objected to the Ring. The election for officers being on, and the Ring seeking re-election, he joined others of his mind, who set up an opposition ticket, and who issued a leaflet containing their candidates and giving reasons why the Stahl-Ring should be beaten. For circulating this leaflet in his organization the Ring had him expelled. Such conduct on the part of the Ring was strictly in keeping with the practices of the Organized Scaberry, that is, a part of it ropes in people with the lure of getting sick and death benefits; taxes them to pay such sick and death benefits, when they are acrued; but demands of them to hold their tongues, never criticise the officers, to let them do just what they please, keep mum and re-elect them; and when anyone dares to exercise the right of free speech, he is bounced by the Ring.

August Gleifor took the hint, and pulled up the Stahl Ring before the very courts that it had appealed to against the Party.

The result is that the Timboocoo crew gets beaten again in its own Courts. Gleifor won. The Workmen's Sick and Death Benefit Fund may now thank the Ring, which the Fund tolerates as its head, for the heavy costs it will have to pay, thanks to the Timboocoo stupidity, Organized Scaberry tyranny, and Kangaroo corruption that marks the Ring.

Prisons Do Not Reform.

In a paper read before the Society of Medical Jurisprudence on Monday night, Dr. Robert J. Irvine, physician in charge of Sing Sing Prison Hospital, described the characteristics of chronic criminals, and said alcoholism and heredity are responsible for a large percentage of offences.

He said our prison system does not reform criminals, but hoards them and turns them loose on the community later more wolfish than ever. He advocated indeterminate sentences, the release of criminals on probation, and said offenders who show no sign of improvement should never be released. He suggested that persons convicted of theft be compelled to make reparation and pay fines and not be imprisoned.

Resolutions favoring the passage of stringent laws to prevent substitution and the sale of proprietary medicines containing poisons were adopted.

Nothing to Arbitrate.

The iron trades unions of San Francisco, whose members have been on strike since May 20 for the nine-hour work days, on January 13 sent a communication to Henry T. Scott, president of the Union Iron Works, begging him to consent to an arbitration of the difficulties. Mr. Scott ignored the offer and at latest advice the strike, or what is left of it, is still on.

Montgomery that crawled?" "Yes," said Jackson, "and there is one crawling now."

Montgomery refused to set a date, and he did crawl. Our comrades left the hall cheering for the fighting Socialist Labor Party. The new members were elated and a meeting of the branch was held on the street corner.

It was decided to hire a hall at Turtle Creek and issue a hand bill to the effect that a Montgomery has issued a challenge to the S. L. P. to debate.

The meeting will take place Monday night, February 11. All hands on deck,

we are closing in on the enemy.

The surplus revenue over the cost of

S. L. P. OF SEATTLE.

ITS PLATFORM AND TICKET FOR MUNICIPAL ELECTION.

The Platform Presents Demands for the Immediate Benefit of the Working Class, But Does Not Lose Sight of the Ultimate Goal, the Cooperative Commonwealth.

The Socialist Labor Party of Seattle, Washington, at its convention held at 1514 First avenue, February 2d, to nominate a municipal ticket adopted the following municipal platform:

"The Socialist Labor Party of Seattle in convention assembled endorses the platform, principles and tactics of the Socialist Labor Party of the United States.

While realizing that victory at the polls in municipal elections can fulfill but a small measure of justice to the working class, which justice can only be accomplished in a national election, and while never losing sight of our final aim—the conquest of the public powers by the working class, to restore to those who produce and operate them, the tools of production and distribution—the Socialist Labor Party of Seattle again enters the municipal campaign to educate the working class to gain for itself those offices now held in the interest of our employers, the capitalist class.

"The Socialist Labor Party of Seattle in convention assembled endorses the platform, principles and tactics of the Socialist Labor Party of the United States. While realizing that victory at the polls in municipal elections is necessary that we have a staunch, true and fearless press: that the WEEKLY and DAILY PEOPLE have proven to be such, and that we are proud to help, support and maintain a press conducted so ably.

Resolved, That we pledge our support and call upon all wage-workers to support The DAILY and WEEKLY PEOPLE, the official organs of the Socialist Labor Party.

Whereas, As the only political organization of the working class, we recognize the necessity of aggressive trades unions that fight for working class interests only, therefore we call upon all wage

SWEDISH MOVEMENT.

PLAIN TALK ON SOME OF ITS PROMINENT FEATURES.

Two-Penny Politics and What the Outcome Will Be—A Swedish Social Democratic Paper Tries to Answer.

Many readers of THE PEOPLE were greatly interested in a series of articles published about a year ago, which I wrote for and then translated from our Swedish organ, "Arbetaren." The articles concerned the Socialist movement in Sweden, and especially the persons prominent in that movement.

Interesting facts in connection with the same subject have not been wanting since that time, and I shall give a short review of them, as my memory has been refreshed by the part "Arbetaren" took in them. The matter occurred last autumn, and at that time I felt inclined to translate it for the readers of THE PEOPLE but press of work rendered it impossible.

The incidents show how one of the Social Democratic papers of Sweden, moved by the publication in "Arbetaren" of a private letter (which had been placed at my disposal by the recipient, who then resided in this city) lost its self-control, and broke the long, long silence that existed in the Swedish papers relative to the movement there, especially since the publication in "Arbetaren" and THE PEOPLE of the "Our Court" articles, and "Arbetaren" was cut out of the list of acknowledged acquaintances. With this preface, I shall now start and give the translations from "Arbetaren."

The first was published on August 15, 1901.

(Victor Funke, Editor of "Arbetaren.")

PRACTICAL SOCIALISM.

A Statement from the "Old Country" That the Social Democracy Has Room Beyond the Pale of Class Consciousness.

A couple of months ago a comrade, now living in this country, sent us the accompanying extracts from a letter from Stockholm, Sweden. The writer thereof, as can be seen from the first portion of the quotations, has so much private business to attend to that he can not, at the present time, take an active part in the labor movement. Judging from what he says in a later portion one may be justified in hoping that he will yet be able to put his shoulder to the wheel. At any rate, a "reaction against the reaction" of the Swedish labor movement cannot be avoided, and even there real Socialism will some day get another start. The writer is bitter, even more so than would have been the case had he known that his letter would fall into the hands of the "publicans," but we believe ourselves justified in giving publicity to some portions of it. Is it not a fact that there are indications of discontent with the Social Democracy of the old country? We do not wish to withhold from our readers any news that would be cheering to them, so we shall give the floor to the writer of the letter:

"The labor movement is following its even, down-hill run in a way that would make one weep, if happily there were not other things to think of just now. Branting, since he became a member of the National Parliament (riksdagen), is as was to have been expected, like the weathercock on the steeple: he turns with the slightest variation of the wind. But the worst of all is that the steeple, nay, the whole church, turns with him, instead of standing solidly and allowing n'm to wear out his hinges until some fine day he would fall. Some day in the near future we shall hear the 'Social-Demokraten' shout: 'Vive the compulsory military service! Down with the general suffrage!' Well, if that were needed to keep him in his seat in Parliament, then—! Even Palm seems to have been silenced with a bone. At any rate his sole thought at present seems to be business. Since his return from America he has been real 'smart,' and I should not be surprised were he to die a millionaire. All that bears the name of Socialism here at home revolves around, in the estimation of most people, the question of two pennies (one) per hour. To the leaders and officers of the 'Social-Demokraten' it is a question of five or ten crowns (koron) more per week, or 1000 more per year, according to the rank they hold. This is the subject discussed at the trades union meetings, or at the meetings of the stockholders of the 'Social-Demokraten.' At the meetings of the Peoples Houses (a kind of labor lyceum), and above all at the meetings of the Consumers' Leagues, though in the latter instance it goes by the name of dividends or investments. We have at last in Stockholm 'Federated Trades' and there the only subject for discussion is how to squeeze out of the worker his last penny for the payment of taxes, obviously with the intention of making the general suffrage superfluous, for during a few years past most of the workers have earned 800 kronor and if they would only starve themselves to pay their taxes all would be smooth sailing. The rural workers count for little. Twenty-two Socialists in the Riksdag seats allotted to Stockholm would turn things upside down! We know all that. As said before, it is two-penny politics from start to finish, at least here in Stockholm and vicinity. In South Sweden things seem to be somewhat better—but wait until they get a Socialist in the Riksdag; then there will be an end to Radicalism; otherwise it might fall out that members of the middle class would not vote for him at the next election. If we had never had a member of the Riksdag we might now be a little nearer to the general suffrage. Well, perhaps not nearer, but at least we would have continued to fight for it, and thereby kept the people awake. Now they all sleep the sleep of the righteous."

"I have followed the current, and can see it whirling around in the two-penny whirl, but at least it is not even politics. The contemptible side of it is that the ideas are dragged down in the dirt. Perhaps, however, I shall awake again and I see a favorable opportunity."

"So far the letter. As said before, we publish it more for the sound discontent that breathes through it than because

we accept the actual bitterness of what it says.

IN ANSWER.

On October 3d, 1901, "Arbetaren" published the following article:

As our readers know, No. 33 of "Arbetaren" contained an extract from a private letter from Sweden, wherein there was expressed a great deal of blame for the Social Democracy. None of the larger Social Democratic papers of Sweden have seen fit, because of it, to break the silence, wherewith, as though by agreement, they have restrained themselves from being led into a discussion with "Arbetaren" on the subject of which represents the working class: our uncompromising preaching of the class struggle, and practical Marxism, or their "newer tendencies" in which Branting takes the lead without opposition worth mentioning, in the party, at least. In Germany it is Bernstein, in France Jaures, both confusionists, and with their "newer tendencies" they have thrown the Socialist movement into confusion, a confusion, however, that can only have the effect of freeing the followers of scientific Socialism from those elements that have either never understood the class struggle, or have grown tired and seek to withdraw.

One of the smaller papers, however, "Ystadbladet Aurora," has broken the seal, and in a praiseworthy way at that, having in addition to its own reply also published in full the extracts from the letter itself. The answer is quite lengthy, but we know that the readers of "Arbetaren" will take pleasure in all of it, so we give it space. There will be no need of extended comment on it, but we shall say a few words. "Aurora" says as follows:

Two-Penny Politics.

"Far away in the West, beyond the Atlantic's rolling waves, is the new world, America, located where so many men go in search of an easier living, and persuaded, possibly, by a desire for riches.

"Not so long ago America was a promised land, 'where there was no king and no exacting priests,' but soon, perhaps sooner than was expected, the development of capitalist trickery forced this true Eldorado into the arms of the million and billion dollar trusts. The result has been here, as elsewhere, refined luxury and affluence on one side; arduous toil and poverty on the other side.

"Along with these conditions there grew naturally, even in America, an organized labor movement. Recently its economic wing entered into a struggle with the Iron and Steel Trust. That shows that the American workingman possesses both the desire and the power to enter into a fight with the capitalists who so mercilessly exploit him.

"If the economic organizations of the American workingmen are stronger than those of any other country, so are the exhibitions on the political field so much the more discouraging. The different parties, divided into a number of small factions, are engaged in a bitter fight among themselves. This certainly does not tend to advance the strength of the Social Democrats in the new world. However, a congress recently held has brought about a kind of unity between the different factions, which we hope will be to the common interest of the labor movement.

"The thing which led us to-day to touch upon the condition of American labor is an article in the Socialist Labor Party Swedish organ, "Arbetaren," in which are printed parts of a private letter from Sweden reading as follows: (above letter in full.)

"It is not so much the contents of the above—which, by the way, may be regarded as the effusions of some 'neglected genius' here at home, who, out of pure bitterness, is making purely personal attacks—but rather the lack of consideration in the paper that publishes it, and its political position in general that, seems to us, to deserve a few words of consideration.

"We shall first take up the purely personal side. When 'Arbetaren' does not like the capitalist tendency, an expression it loves to use in relation to the development of European Socialism—it may, of course, have its own way. The same may be said concerning its mad fight against everything it regards as being 'cottageous' with capitalism and a debasement of the ideas of Socialism. In fact, there is no harm in that, as every idea that is presented to the people needs its salt before being accepted, so that it may not be destroyed, to a greater or lesser degree, by those parasites if that expression be allowed, who, undoubtedly, are always on the lookout for a chance to do their reactionary work.

"But one should, first of all, equip oneself with clean weapons, and not in season and out of season talk about 'discontent' where none exists. That which can be won through an honest discussion is always desirable, but it is not, it appears to us, either noble or necessary that a paper in America should make purely personal attacks against men in Sweden, thereby trying to gain more prestige for a special tendency within a common cause, that the paper in question represents.

"Branting and Palm are men who 'stand or fall' with their convictions, why, then, is it so impossible to get them to appear in the party press to defend those convictions? Is it on account of the insignificance of "Arbetaren" or on account of its 'madness'?

"If you, at home, are going to keep on with your silence, then it is probable that we shall follow the hint of "Aurora" and begin to joke, but we cannot do that without satire, and we prefer, when we have serious matter at heart, to talk seriously.

"Everybody who knows "Arbetaren's" position knows what we mean by—that is to say, what in reality is—revolutionary Socialism and "Aurora's" talk on that head is simply ridiculous. "Aurora" has read "Arbetaren" long enough to know our standpoint, which nowhere gives reason for the supposition that by revolution we understand anything else than the legal advancement of the working class, in which no human blood need be shed, no human life sacrificed, if the capitalist class does not meet our legality with illegality. But in this progress we wish the working class to rely on itself alone, and we do not want it to compromise with any of the phalanxes of the enemy, for these compromises serve only to lengthen the reign of capitalism, and have, because of their inability to produce results, only the effect of bringing distrust and discouragement to the ranks of the working class. The new tendency will have such effects, and we fight them as hindering the advancement of the social revolution.

"Arbetaren" does not believe that "a violent revolution at the present time, with the under class in full power would be a lasting and beneficial thing."

"Arbetaren" stands too firmly upon the solid ground of scientific socialism to wish to give any speculative or adventurous councils. We know the factors we have to deal with, and against the factors we do not wish to sin, as the representatives of the "new tendencies" are doing. We know that there is no utility in creeping away from the class struggle and its consequences: therefore we rightly condemn those who are trying to do so.

"To explain to the readers of THE PEOPLE the allusion in the extracts from the letter which referred to August Palm, I wish to add that after finishing his agitation tour in this country in the fall of 1900 he went directly home to write a book about America. What its nature is I do not know, for although it has been published six months he has not sent a copy to "Arbetaren."

"Palm had that book business in his mind long before he came over to this country. When he got it under way he made every trades union member, friend, and admirer an agent for the book, and every party paper in Sweden advertised it largely, and gave it a fine review, although Palm is a poor writer. From this it is said he netted a goodly sum. The only reason for his neglect in sending a copy to me that I can see is that he does not wish the book to be reviewed by "Arbetaren."

"When discontent in the organization is based on justice then no doubt the guilty will be punished. Until then one will have to deal either with the inevitable discontent of a minority, or with purely personal animosities.

""Arbetaren" is a fearfully and wonderfully revolutionary sheet that feels ill when it hears that the Socialists of Europe can stand, for example, the acceptance by Millerand of a cabinet portfolio, or that co-operative societies are conducted by Social Democrats. Revolutionary it must be, and the emancipation of the working class and the taking possession of the political powers are the means whereby to overthrow the present system of society."

"No, if by 'revolutionary,' "Arbetaren" means that the subject 'class' under-

THE SOCIALIST MOVEMENT IN AMERICA.

[By W. McGregor, in London "Social Democrat."]

An article on the above, by A. M. Simons, of the S. D. P. of America, and editor of the "International Socialist Review," published in America calls for some comment. I should have been very well pleased if Simons, instead of saying that De Leon and De Leonism have just reached England, had told us who De Leon is and what De Leonism is not; and at what time the English comrades qualified to provide themselves as matter for the comic papers of America. In the article mentioned I shall take it that Simons means by De Leon the editor of the DAILY and WEEKLY "PEOPLE," i. e., the organ of the S. L. P. of America, and that by De Leonism we mean the tactics of the S. L. P. of America. To begin with, we shall have to go back to the 1896 convention of the S. L. P., at that time the only Socialist party in America, and, for that matter, the only bona fide Socialist party yet, A. M. Simons notwithstanding. At that convention the action of a number of the members was endorsed by the delegates in convention assembled, i. e., their action in breaking away from the Knights of Labor and starting a Socialist Trade Union instead of standing idly by and endorsing all the crimes committed by that body against the working class of America; and while admitting that Trade Unionism in its earlier stages did to some extent benefit the workers, yet to-day it must be admitted that pure and simple trade unions in America or in England are practically no more than sick and coffin societies; further, that they act as decoy ducks to lead the workers off the straight path of what Unionism should be.

When the new Trade Union idea was first mooted it received considerable opposition from many Socialists in America, as elsewhere, and this was not to be wondered at seeing what a great many men in the movement were practical pillars of the union, and in many instances were the backbone of the union in the particular district to which they belonged. That, taken with the resolution passed at the 1900 convention of the S. L. P., "that no Socialist could be an official in a pure and simple Trade Union," somewhat ruffled some of the more reform element in the party. That the economic arm of the Socialist party was antagonistic to the old Trade Unions there is no doubt, as in the political sphere the Socialist party is antagonistic to capitalism and all its emissaries, said emissaries better known as reform parties, and that is the position of the pure and simple Trade Unions in America. To-day they simply act as helpers to the captains of industry, i. e., according to Winchnevsky, an old S. D. F. member, who wrote in "Justice" that we were all glad that the name of their paper had been changed, and by this article tried to bluff the comrades here into believing that he had voluntarily changed the name, instead of being convicted as frauds in the same courts as they appealed to to convict the S. L. P. as frauds. The next we hear is De Leonism through the Kangaroo Press, the "Worker." De Leon is the scapegoat, and the Socialists of America have no intelligence left; whatever De Leon says is law, i. e., according to Winchnevsky, an old S. D. F. member, who wrote in "Justice" that we were all glad that the name of their paper had been changed, and by this article tried to bluff the comrades here into believing that he had voluntarily changed the name, instead of being convicted as frauds in the same courts as they appealed to to convict the S. L. P. as frauds. 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CIGARMAKERS STRIKE.

SPANISH WORKERS QUIT AT FERNANDEZ & COMPANY'S.

It Looks Like a Repetition of the Tampa Affair—Organized Scaberry of the I. C. U. Consults With the Firm—Tampa Scabs Are Back Looking for Jobs.

The Spanish and Cuban workers employed in the cigar factory of Fernandez & Company of Thirty-seventh street near Third avenue, went out on strike last Wednesday over a disagreement on prices with the firm. The work done by the men who went out, is strictly hand work, each workman completing his product. On another floor in the factory so-called Spanish work is done by teams. Among the team workers are a number of members of the Cigarmakers' International Union. The workmen on both floors have been on good terms with each other and there was no friction between them. Recently, however, the International men among the workers who stand close to the Organized Scaberry of the C.I.U., have been pulling wires between the firm and the Organized Scaberry. One of the workmen who belongs to the C.I.U., said yesterday that there is no doubt but that a scheme is on foot to oust the Spaniards.

That this is not mere conjecture was proven yesterday when a committee from Union No. 90 appeared at the factory and had a long talk with the firm. As in the Tampa strike the C.I.U. is no doubt getting ready to turn scabs to take the places of the strikers. The policy of the Organized Scaberry is to make a deep cut in prices in order to get its men in. It offers to do Spanish work at \$3 to \$4 per thousand less than is paid to the Spanish workers. In order to do this it introduces moulds which whereas the Spanish cigar is strictly hand made.

The team men took no action yesterday but it is understood that their sympathy is with the strikers. It was rumored yesterday that the men who were sent to Tampa, Fla., by the C.I.U., to scrub it on the strikers belonging to the Spanish Union, La Resistencia, are drifting back to New York and that they are calling on the Organized Scaberry to take care of them.

The only result of the Organized Scaberry's scheme, if successful, will be to beat down Spanish prices. It is a fact well known to the trade that the workmen furnished by the C.I.U. cannot do the work known as Spanish work. It is considered significant that the C.I.U., which is opposed to cigar-making machinery such as auction tables, etc., should endeavor to introduce moulds in Spanish work. The reason for this is explained by cigarmakers as due to the fact that the C.I.U. men cannot do the strictly handwork, and consequently are unable to control the Spanish workers.

TESTIMONY THAT IS TESTIMONY.

Andrew Carnegie, who is taking the place of Dewey as a "funny man" and utterer of economic preposterousness, recently delivered himself of the statement that:

"Wages are going up and prices are going down."

This optimistic capitalist protectionist view suited only partially the capitalist free trade "Times." In so far as the statement contained the implied falsehood that the earnings of the workingmen were rising, it suited the "Times"; in so far, however, as the statement was a dig under the fifth rib of free trade it did not suit the "Times." The free trade fallacy and deception reason that, owing to the tariff, prices are high; that this robes the workingmen; and that the rise in prices brought on by protection neutralizes the rise in wages. The free trader's position, accordingly, can tolerate no such idioms as suits the protectionist. The "Times" joined issue with Carnegie on the relative cost of living.

Out of that has sprung a debate by letters. One of these, recently published in the "Times" of the 3d instant under the misleading title "Relative Cost of Living"—the true title should have been "Relative Earnings and Relative Cost of Living"—is reproduced below:

I belong to a family that has lived in New York since long before the Revolution, and the history of one average American family may be said to be the history of the country, in a sense. Not to go back so far that my facts will be considered "ancient history." I had an uncle who for the last twenty-five years of his life owned a successful molding mill in Bethune street. But during the previous twenty-five years, beginning with his marriage, he never earned more than \$12 a week. Yet on that income he supported his family in perfect comfort; in the last years the family consisted of ten persons. They always lived in an entire house, were refined, self-respecting people, and it would take, at the time, at the very least, four times that amount to support such a family in much less comfort.

Another relative, in the first half of the last century, in changing his occupation, lived, with his wife and child, on \$1 a day, without serious privation or going in debt.

My mother when a young woman could buy the material and pay for the making of a silk gown for \$18 that would last her two or three years for church and visiting wear. A woman in the same position now would be obliged to spend ten times as much as was sufficient at that time for my mother to dress well. These general standards applied still more to places away from the large cities.

In a life of William Cullen Bryant it is mentioned that when preparing for college he paid \$2.50 a week for his board, and Howells, in his "Literary Friends and Acquaintances," tells of paying \$3 a week for a large room and excellent board in Columbus, O., about the year 1850.

In considering the question of the relative cost of living we must take into account the difference in customs and standards of living. We have now innumerable artificial wants, many of which, considering our surroundings, amount to necessities, from which our grandparents were happily free. The improvements and conveniences, also, of our modern life must be paid for. Many of the new wants are wholly artificial and unnecessary and are the outgrowth of the ever-increasing luxury of living which strongly influences the grade below, and that the next, and the next, until all to some extent are affected by the standards of the millionaire. This is one of the great evils and threatening dangers of our modern life.

Now, is it true, as many assert, that even if the cost of living is greater it is more than made up by the greater earning power and higher rates of wages?

I think it is not true. Undoubtedly, some lines of labor are more liberally paid—certain skilled mechanic trades, and especially domestic service. But unskilled labor is not as well paid and the supply is in excess of the demand. That is true even of the West, where for many years the young man who acted upon Horace Greeley's advice was sure of some kind of employment and opportunity, but that condition does not exist now. In nearly all clerical positions the salaries are lower and the opportunities for promotion infinitely less than fifty years ago. In commercial life the young man without capital has absolutely no chance except a perpetual clerkship.

The uncle I referred to began independent business with no actual capital and succeeded. Another uncle, who began life as a salesman in a dry goods store, established himself in business on Grand street with no capital—merely a little credit—and he made a fortune. But that is impossible now. No boy can begin by sweeping out the store and end as senior partner in the firm. The best he can do is to end as buyer or head of a department.

Again, not only are most kinds of employment less well paid, but the difficulty of obtaining it at all is immensely increased. In the history of the many generations of my family in New York in the earlier days there is not one account of an able-bodied man who could not find remunerative employment of some kind. Now we whose eyes are open to the conditions of life around us, and who observe our fellow-beings not from the altitude of Carnegie millions, but from the level of "the man in the street," know too many heartbreaking experiences of overcrowded occupations and locked doors to be able to partake of the cheerful optimism of the millionaires. A successful lawyer recently told me that if he should advertise for a clerk who could carry a case through court at a salary of \$10 a week his office would be almost mobbed with applicants.

As to women's work—well, one instance will do! I know of a woman with four children who makes infant's dresses for 50 cents a dozen! And they must be well made at that!

I could fill every column of the "Times" with instances of the fearful discrepancy between the expense of living and the money that can be earned. Is it any wonder that to those who suffer by these conditions the constant boasts of our wonderful prosperity seem almost a giddy sarcasm? J. R. GRIFFING.

New York, Feb. 3, 1902.

This is an old American's experience; his testimony is one that can be elicited from any other old American who is inclined to tell the truth, that is to say, whose capitalist-free trade or protection-interests have not yet extinguished his truthfulness. It is the sort of testimony that conversation with any old American family constantly elicits; and the facts that such conversations bring out make root-and-branch work of the stacks of "lies in figures" that are set aside as "statistics."

Apart from that portion of Mr. Griffing's letter, where he indulges in the indistinct assertion about the wants that are "the outgrowth of the ever-increasing luxuries of the rich," the letter reads like a page from some well-considered Socialist address, adducing facts that go to prove the mischievous effect of capitalism upon society; that prove the earnings of the working class to be sinking, their opportunities to earn to be shrinking, and their cost of living to be rising.

BLACKMAIL IN FACTORIES.

Connecticut Overseers Charge Workers for Jobs.

New Haven, Feb. 7.—The report of Commissioner Back, head of the Connecticut Bureau of Labor Statistics, published to-day, says that in connection with the working of new free employment bureaus, it was discovered that new places could be found for shop hands and mill operatives. The heads of factories stated that they left the employment of hands to the overseers of the departments, and the latter stubbornly refused to patronize the State free employment agencies and to engage help except in the ordinary way.

This led to an investigation, and it was found that there was a "widespread" and "alarming" practice in the State of blackmailing the men who seek work and compelling them to pay tribute for the privilege of employment. "The evils of this oppression," the commissioner says, "are second only to those of the police intelligence offices."

Otherwise, the commissioner says the State free employment agencies are a complete success, supplying a good class of labor and with more independence and discrimination, as the superintendents are dependent on salaries and not on amount of business. During five months the agencies have found place for 1,083 males and 2,058 females out of 5,742 applicants, of whom 2,820 were males and 2,922 females.

There were during the year 126 strikes and lockouts, involving 11,250 workmen and causing a loss of wages of \$375,232. During the year labor organizations have increased to 340 from 270 the year before.

The Homes of the People.

In American cities having populations of more than 100,000, less than 23 per cent of "the homes of the people" are owned by those who live in them.

"CIVILIZED WARFARE."

Americans Outdo Spaniards in Brutality.

A. F. Miller, a member of the Thirty-second United States Volunteers, writing from the Philippine Islands to the Omaha World, under date of March 5, describes the means used by United States soldiers to compel captured Filipinos to give up their concealed arms. He says:

"We go out on a hike, catch a negro, and ask him if he has a gun; he will give us a polite bow, and say, 'No sabby,' and then we take hold of him and give him the 'water cure.' After which he can get us two or three guns. Now, this is the way we give them the water cure: lay them on their backs, a man standing on each hand and each foot, then put a round stick in the mouth and pour a full of water in the mouth and nose, and if they don't give up poun in another pull. They swell up like toads. I'll tell you it's a terrible torture."

"We went up the bay the other day to get some robbers, and secured three. They would not tell where they had their guns. So we gave them the water cure (salt water), and two of them gave us their guns. We gave the other one so much water we nearly killed him, yet he would not tell. Guess he was an old head; they have lots of grit. They will stand and see you half-kill one of their friends, and won't tell a thing. When it comes to their time to take the cure, they will take their clothes off, lie down, and take two or three pails of water before they will say a word. One of them said: 'You can kill me, but you can not make me tell.'

An officer of the regular army, now serving in Luzon, describes the "water torture" as practiced by the Macabebes scouts in the American service as follows:

"A company of Macabebes enter a town or barrio, catch some men—it matters not whom—ask him if he knows where they are any guns; and upon receiving a negative answer, five of six of them throw him down, one holds his head, while others have hold of an arm or leg. They then proceed to give him the 'water torture,' which is the dimension of the internal organs with water. After they are distended, a cord is sometimes placed around the body and the water expelled. From what I have heard, it appears to be generally applied, and its use is not confined to one section. Although it results in the finding of a number of guns, it does us an infinite amount of harm. Nor are the Macabebes the only ones who use this method of obtaining information. Personally, I have never seen this torture inflicted, nor have I ever knowingly allowed it; but I have seen a victim a few minutes afterwards, with his mouth bleeding where it had been cut by a bayonet used to hold his mouth open, and his face bruised where he had been struck by the Macabebes. Add to this the expression of his face and his evident weakness from the torture, and you have a picture which, once seen, will not be forgotten. I am not chicken-hearted, but this policy hurts us. Summary executions are, and will be necessary in a troubled country, and I have no objection to seeing that they are carried out; but I am not used to torture. The Spaniards used the torture of water throughout the islands, as a means of obtaining information; but they used it sparingly, and only when it appeared evident that the victim was culpable. Americans seldom do things in halves."

The Philippine correspondent of the Philadelphia Public Ledger gives the following account of "our war" in the Philippines:

"The present war is no bloodless fake, opera-bouffe engagement; our men have been relentless, have killed to exterminate men, women and children, prisoners and captives, active insurgents, and suspected people from lads of ten up, an idea prevailing that the Filipino as such was little better than a dog, a loathsome reptile. In some instances, whose best disposition was the rubbish heap. Our soldiers have pumped salt water into men to 'make them talk,' and have taken prisoners people who have held up their hands and peacefully surrendered, and an hour later, without an atom of evidence to show that they were even insurrectos, stood them on a bridge and shot them down one by one, to drop into the water below and float down as an example to those who found their bullet-loaded corpses. It is not civilized warfare, but we are not dealing with civilized people. The only thing they know and fear is force, violence, and brutality, and we give it to them. The new military plans of settling the troubles by setting them at each other is one that looks promising. We have now sent a thousand Macabebes to Samar to avenge the treacherous murder of Company C of the Ninth Infantry. They are hereditary enemies of the 'Ladrones,' and go forth to slaughter gaily."

ABANDONING THE STRIKE.

Paterson, N. J., Feb. 6.—The joint board of arbitration, representing the employing and labor fakir interests is well advanced and there is every prospect that such an association will be formed.

This is in emulation of the national movement for a special tribunal to "settle all differences between capital and labor," the labor fakirs at Paterson taking the initiative in the matter, locally.

The Silk Manufacturer's Association, to which every local manufacturer is so-called affiliated is active in the movement, and since there is a very amicable sentiment between the labor fakirs and employers here, "great things" are looked for.

The board is likely to consist of twenty-seven labor fakirs, seven manufacturers, and six men to be mutually decided upon, who are not connected with the silk trade. Ex-Attorney-General John W. Griggs is named as one of these as well as Major John Hincliffe, Rev. Charles D. Snav, pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church, the Very Rev. Prescut McNulty of St. John's Roman Catholic Church and others.

Otherwise, the commissioner says the State free employment agencies are a complete success, supplying a good class of labor and with more independence and discrimination, as the superintendents are dependent on salaries and not on amount of business. During five months the agencies have found place for 1,083 males and 2,058 females out of 5,742 applicants, of whom 2,820 were males and 2,922 females.

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NEWS FROM.....

THE FIELD OF LABOR

The Olneyville Lock Out.

The lockout of the weavers of Olneyville, R. I., is a typical illustration of the effects of modern world—competition Capitalism on the Working Class. The cotton industry of this country is predominantly an industry whose successes have been world-wide. Trifled on a gigantic scale, it has defeated European and Asiatic competition in the distant lands of the Orient. Its mechanical achievements are no less wonderful than its economic triumphs. From the invention of the cotton-gin of Whitney to the introduction of the Northrup loom it has scored innumerable technical victories. Its productive capacity as a result has increased more than a thousand fold. Dominating in international cotton-competition, excelling in mechanical equipment, and continually increasing in productive capacity, one would infer from capitalist teachings that the weavers, the cotton-operatives and the mill hands of this country are superlatively prosperous and happy; yet what is the fact? Turn to the Olneyville lockout and see. There, 6,500 mill hands are thrown out of employment because they threatened a general strike in opposition to the two loom system. By means of this system, the American Woolen Company (The Woolen Trust) endeavored to double up work in order to defeat its competitors, the so-called independents, in certain lines of fancy weaves. The weavers fought this endeavor as the entering wedge to the general introduction of the two-loom system in all the New England and eventually the Southern mills.

Cotton Exports.

The exports of cotton manufacturers showed an increase last year over those of 1900. This is likely to continue, as strenuous attempts are being made to secure an extension of foreign markets, especially in China. With this end in view, Southern manufacturers are favoring a less rigorous Chinese exclusion act than the one now before Congress. They realize the necessity of propitiating the Chinese in order to secure their trade. The Southern mills are mainly devoted to the production of coarse goods. During the "suppression of the Boxer movement" the export of these goods to China declined. Many Southern mills thereupon turned to the manufacture of finer goods, with the result that these mills are becoming more like those of their Northern owners, in the quality of their output.

With the extension of foreign markets, with the increasing competition of England, Germany, India and more especially Japan in the East, the outlook for the cotton industry is not at all promising. When judging by the light of past results, these things, together with new machinery and trustification, offer no basis for belief in an improvement, for the tendencies, as far as the cotton operatives are concerned have all been downward and not upward, as capitalist teachings would have us believe.

TRADES-UNIONISM AND LABOR LEGISLATION.

This lockout is the culmination of a long series of wage cuts, direct and indirect, which have occurred in New England during the past few years. It is this which gives it peculiar significance at this time. The manufacturers, trust and independent, are determined to get still more work at still less wages than heretofore; and the cotton-operatives are as determined to retain their present wages, without an increase of production, if possible. Hence the lockout and the threatened strike for and against the two loom system. The fight, most likely, will resolve itself into one of endurance. If that event the poorly paid mill hands will be forced by their poverty to succumb.

STRIKES AND WAGE-CUTS PRECEDING LOCKOUT.

Attempts to introduce the two loom system were successfully blocked at Lawrence, Plymouth, Blackstone and other places in Massachusetts. Back of these and helping to accentuate them have been a series of strikes and reductions in Lowell, Lawrence, Holyoke, Clinton, Maynard, New Bedford and Fall River, Mass., Dover, N. H., and many towns in Connecticut. At Lowell the weavers submitted to a ten per cent reduction. At Fall River they struck in many places against the lengthening of cuts, without a proportionate increase of pay. At Lawrence, they struck against a cut of ten cents per piece. And so it went in other places also.

MACHINERY AND WAGES.

In most all these instances, the employers have contended that the installation of new machinery, which made production larger and easier, justifies the reductions and increase of lengths. They argue that the true test was not the amount produced but the wages paid.

These points were conceded by the agent; but he refused to grant the increase demanded. A compromise was accordingly effected. This argument and course is pursued by the manufacturers consistently and profitably. It was advanced in the New Bedford strike four years ago. After its ending the strikers found they were actually earning 20 per cent less than formerly. Wages then averaged about \$8 dollars a week.

The weavers who struck in the Lancaster Mills at Clinton this year claimed they could only earn from \$5 to \$6 a week. This is in accord with the downward tendency of wages in the New England cotton mills. A young manufacturer estimated recently that weavers' wages in 1870 averaged from \$50 to \$60 a month. In 1890 from \$30 to \$35. The American Wool and Cotton Reporter gives the decline in operatives' wages at 50 per cent, for the 20 years preceding 1900.

The average yearly wages paid in the cotton factories in Massachusetts, according to the census of 1890, was \$335. This is over \$100 LESS than the yearly average wages paid to all other labor, according to the same census. In the Southern States it is said by some that white wages there are 40 per cent lower; while hours are 20 per cent longer. A conservative estimate made on a most favorable basis to New England, places the wage difference at 15 per cent; hours being the same. With these facts before him, where is the man who will contend that the increased productivity of machinery means more wages for labor, under Capitalism?

WOMEN AND CHILD LABOR.

Along with the introduction of new machinery has gone the intensity of labor. There are no old men in New England cotton factories. The strains wear the men out before they are forty-five. Young men and women are constantly put in their places as a consequence. Women and child labor abound. It is not an uncommon sight to see whole families go into the mills at day break to remain until nightfall. Household arrangements are often reversed. When the men cease working they attend to household duties while their wives

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SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES:

In 1888.....	2,068
In 1892.....	21,157
In 1896.....	36,564
In 1900.....	34,191

All the past we leave behind,
We dash upon a newer, mightier world, varied world;
Fresh and strong the world we seize, world of labor, and we march,
Pioneers! O, Pioneers!

WALT WHITMAN.

WAGES-SHARE-EARNINGS.

The claims of prosperity, persistently advanced, hand in hand with the accumulating evidences of misery, and hand in hand, furthermore, with mentions of "higher wages," are so evidently incongruous that one is inclined to ask, Are these prosperity-shouters brazen liars? Inquiry discloses the fact that they are worse than that: they are not brazen; they are cowardly; and their cowardliness lies in the way they juggle with the three words "wages," "share," and "earnings."

say, a man received one year \$1 a day, and later he received \$2 a day. Up goes the shout: "wages have increased," "prosperity!" Not necessarily. At the time of the \$1 wages the worker may have had steady work, and received the \$1 wages 300 days in the year; that would have been an earning of \$300 a year per contra, at the time of the \$2 wages, work may have been so unsteady that he worked only 100 days, and his earnings would then be only \$200, or \$100 less than before. Wages may go up; it does not follow that earnings go up too. In fact "wages" may go up, and "earnings" go down.

Similarly as to the "share of labor." At a time when the product of the worker is worth \$2 a day, if his wages are \$1, his share is 50 per cent. of his product. But if, as happens through perfected machinery, the product of that same worker grows to be worth \$10 a day, then even if his wages have risen to \$2 a day his share has declined; his present share would be only 20 per cent. of the product of his labor. In other words, "wages" may rise and yet the "share" of labor may tumble.

Combining these two principles it follows that the worker, who received \$1 wages at a time when the product of his labor was worth \$2 a day and when he had steady work 300 days in the year, might be infinitely worse off at a later period even if he received \$2 wages a day, if at such later period the value of his product had increased 5 times and the unsteadiness of work left him only 100 work days. In the former case his "wages" would be \$1 but his "share" would be 1/2 of his product, and his earnings \$300; while in the latter instance, despite higher wages (\$2 a day), he would be keeping only 1/5 of his product, and his earnings would shrink to \$200.

The fact that "wages" may rise and yet the "share" of labor decline, and the worker's "earnings" shrink would be sufficient to explain the increasing volume of popular misery, and to nail the word-juggling that is going on with the words "wages," "share" and "earnings." But the jugglery goes further. The extent to which it goes can be measured by the increasing extent of misery. It remains to point out the system of the jugglery.

The expression "wages have risen" implies that good wages were being received before. This implication is a suggestion of a double falsehood: In most cases of a real "rise" in wages the "rise" consists either in employing men who had been thrown out of work, or in an increase above some previous cruel reduction, the "rise" leaving the "wages" below what they had been, and accordingly going hand in hand with still greater reductions of the "share" of labor, and with still greater shrinkage in earnings. In view of the fact that, in not a few instances, the alleged "rise" in wages is a pure fabrication, and in view of the further fact that, here and there, in isolated and exceptional instances, an actual rise has taken place and the news thereof is inflated out of all proportion with the facts, it follows that the present "prosperity" songs backed up by talks of higher "wages," larger "share" and increased "earnings," all jumbled together, is nothing but a game of Japanese jugglery, that the capitalist pulpit, professors, press,

and politicians are seeking to humbug the people with.

Fortunately, the stomach, though a patient sufferer, has limits to its patience, and peremptory ways withal to notify the head.

AND YET ANOTHER INSTANCE.

The light of a certain performance, that took place on the 5th instant in this city, should not be hidden under a bushel.

The scene of the performance was the office of the Howard & Morse Manufacturing Company. The actors were, on the one side, 14 manufacturers of wire goods, presided over by one of their own number, W. S. Estey of the Estey Wire Works Company, and on the other side a committee of their employees. The committee, by letter, submitted a request for the reduction of the working day to eight hours with the same pay as now given for ten hours. The manufacturers declined. Should one not expect that there was "a hot time in town" on that occasion? Would not the above bare outlines of the performance indicate a clash between opposing class interests? Well, no! And therein lies the brilliancy of the light that should not be allowed to lie hidden under a bushel. There was absolute harmony in premises and conclusions between the two sets.

The employees stated that their request was made "in an entirely friendly spirit," and they explained that it was furthermore made in the interest of both the employer and the employee, seeing it was "in accordance with the laws of progress," which concerned all alike. The employers thereupon took their loving brothers to their bosoms, and explained to them that the "manufacturers would not do business without making a profit, and could not if they would." The men were convinced. The "friendly spirit" prevailed; and as the men were acting "in the interest of all concerned," they dropped their request.

It is no flickering light that shot its tongue skyward from the office of the Howard & Morse Manufacturing Company on that occasion. The men who requested an eight-hour day with a ten-hour pay were unconsciously driven by the class-pinch of the class-shoe; they instinctively proceeded from the correct theory that they were fleeced; they instinctively proceeded from the correct sense that the pay they received represented but a small fraction of the wealth that they produced; they instinctively proceeded from the just feeling that there is antagonism between them and their employer. But nursed and sodden in the mischievous notion of "the brotherly relations that underlie the Capitalist Class and the Working Class"—all their "correct" instincts were squashed, squashed to the extent that they bowed in submissive approval of the blunt class-admission of their employers that these "could not, if they would, and would not, if they could, do business without a profit." In other words, these plundered workers subscribed to the capitalist principle that the plunder of the workers is legitimate capitalist revenue.

Nor is that all that the light, that went up from that scene, illuminates. These men were just organized by the Gompers-Hanna A. F. of L.! Their request was the first fruit of their organization. What they were actually organized for their ready collapse betrays! The pure and simple, Gompers-Hanna A. F. of L. organization of the workingmen is duck set afloat with leaden clogs, fastened to its web-feet to insure drowning. Such organizations are set up for the express purpose of smothering the instinctive sense of the class-struggle, that, properly guided, would in short order hurl the parasite Capitalist Class off the back of the Working Class. And it is such systematic drowning and smothering, together with the convulsive sprawlings which accompany them, that the Kangaroo Social Democracy officially glorifies as "a noble waging of the class struggle"!

BARKING AT THE MOON.
The Hon. William J. Bryan, the apostle of the middle class, has come out in favor of Denis Mulvihill, the Bridgeport "Labor" Mayor, for Democratic candidate for Governor of Connecticut. The purpose of this move is apparent. With Hanna corralling Labor, or at least trying to, in favor of the Republican party, Bryan tries to parry the blow by a display of love and affection for the commodity. But Bryan's move is ineffectual. It is of a par with all his other moves. He is simply barking at the moon. Hanna may or may not get the labor vote; and, if Hanna gets it, it will be not, so much by reason of what he and plutocracy may do but by reason of what Bryan may do. So long as Bryan and Bryanism will be kind enough to address the multitudes, the plutocracy need not bother: the masses will stampede to the Republican party. The point is subject to mathematical demonstration.

The burden of the song of Bryanism is that the workers should strain their efforts towards enriching their employers. The argument is that only by enriching the employer can the employee improve

his condition. "Enrich your employers, that will enrich you," so runs the Bryanistic refrain. And Bryanism can't get away from that. Hannaism need hold no such language. Hannaism is not a bankrupt class. Bryanism is: hence Bryanism incessantly talks about better conditions for the employer. There can be no surer way of driving the unthinking masses towards Hannaism, as has conspicuously happened twice.

For every workingman employed by the middle class Bryan element, there are—it is safe to say—99 employed by the upper capitalist and the plutocratic class, that is, by Hannaism. Say, now, that Bryan addresses all told 5,000,000 workingmen, and inoculates them with the belief that the way for them to get along is to make their employers get along. What is the result? Plainly that 7,920,000 of his hearers will say, "Clever man! He beautifully showed us in a way that only a fine speaker like him could, that our welfare depends upon the welfare of the employer; my employer is a Hanna man; consequently, I'll vote for his candidate;"—and the Bryan crew is left with a cold \$0.00.

Accordingly, Bryan's boozing of Denis Mulvihill is one more clear case of barking at the moon. The day of the political supremacy of the small producer is gone. He can't open his mouth without uttering his death warrant. The day of Hannaism has come, and that day will not be darkened until the Socialist Labor Party principle takes hold of the masses and teaches them that it is a foolish claim that the workers' prosperity depends upon that of their employers, as it were to claim that the dog's prosperity depends upon the full-bloodedness of the fleas that live upon him.

ONE OR THE OTHER,—WHICH?

A despatch from Chicago, published the other day, reported a discussion that took place in the Federation of Labor of that city on the subject of the workingman's life time. One delegate reported that railroad companies and large manufacturing establishments refused to hire a man more than thirty-five years old, and discharged its mechanics at the age of forty-five. Machinists, carpenters, and others told of the subterfuges that mechanics were compelled to resort to so as to conceal their age and thereby secure work: some confessed to having dyed their hair to give the youthful look necessary to get work; others with a tinge of gray in their beards kept clean shaven faces to avoid detection of their age; others who wore glasses left their glasses at home to hold their jobs and thereby hastened the spoiling of their eyesight. And so forth and so on.

Finally, one delegate, in grim sarcasm, summed up the situation by suggesting shooting at the age of forty-five as a measure to solve the problem.

That capitalism in America consumes an abnormal amount of human life is well attested. The intensity of labor on the part of the American worker is one of the boasts of the American wage-slave driver, and is the terror of the European working class. There is no country where the cannibal feature of capitalism is as strongly illustrated as America.

That the workingmen in the Chicago Federation of Labor must be aware of the fact no one can wonder at, and least of all could anyone wonder at their indignation thereto. In so far there is nothing surprising in the report of the transactions of that body, but what really deserves wonderment is that the report should stop where it did.

When, several months ago, the capitalist press blossomed forth with copies of the forged statistical reports from the Census Bureau showing that the life of the American workingman has increased, the trade journals of the very men who "kicked" at the Chicago Federation echoed the lie; some even improved upon it, as did the journal of the International Cigarmakers. For a season, there was not one pure and simple trades journal that did not have some article on the subject—all chiming in with the lie about the prolonged life of the American workingman, "thanks" (of course) "to the Trades Union." That the placemen, who own these journals, should fructify the falsehoods, started by their capitalist actual or prospective paymasters, is natural. But is it equally natural that men who, as those in the Chicago Federation, feel and smart under the truth, should have not a word of condemnation for the journals of their trades, towards which they are forced to contribute, when these journals seek to conceal the truth, and actually publish the reverse of the truth? Surely not.

There is no choice left but to conclude: either the report was censored by the Chicago branch of the Manila press-despatch censors; or—the indignant at the Chicago Federation of Labor simply set themselves up to be hushed.

Which?

"Per capita" generalizations are usually the most arrant nonsense, because the "per capita" is based upon the assumption that each person has his "per capita" in his pocket; and for this reason, the "per capita" of money, of whiskey, or diamonds, etc., etc., not but in a statement sent by the U. S. Consul-General at St. Petersburg there is an interesting para-

graph which says that Russia has 4.9 acres of forest, Sweden 9.5, Norway 10.4 and Germany, .60 for each inhabitant. This shows the vast tracts of land which are still available in Europe, a continent that many are disposed to look upon as crowded, and it shows still further that Europe can, with little trouble, support a greatly increased population. Other European countries also have vast forest lands. The Austro-Hungarian forests cover 32 per cent. of the country, and Italy, Spain, France, and even the British islands have vast extensive forest lands. A wise government, which is possible only under a wise and just social system, would turn the bounty of nature to the good of mankind, and would use both farming land and forest for the production of those things which tend to the welfare of the human race.

Under capitalism there is a riotous outpouring of the things that are destructive, and a malignant and criminal penury of the things that are good. There is room enough for all, and there is place for happiness for all, but it cannot come until the mismanagement of capitalism is ended, and the Socialist Republic is instituted. This must be the work of the working class organized in the Socialist Labor Party.

The miners at Nome are suffering from scurvy, and it is feared that hundreds of them will die before the winter is finished. The miners who rushed to Nome did so in the desperate hope of becoming rich. Companies have taken over the mines, and there is nothing for the miners to do except hustle for a job. When that point is reached starvation and scurvy set in. They are the accompaniments of capitalism.

The meeting of the Texas State Federation of Labor, held a short time ago in Austin, gave a memorable illustration of the intelligence, honesty, and fearlessness of the pure and simple unions.

A resolution was passed which reads:

"Resolved, That the rapid stride Taxes is making in the commercial world indicates that factories of all kinds will soon be established in the State, and believing that our great State is capable of sustaining factories without the sacrifice of human blood, we favor a bounty to new enterprises." This is the same Texas in which Beaumont is situated, and it was there that Frank Lyon, a member of the Socialist Labor Party, a workingman, and a worker for the cause of the working class was most inhumanely beaten by officers of the law.

Did the State Federation of Labor protest against it? Not much. The fakirs in the State Federation have all they can do keeping their noses to the wind to find whether there is any capitalist carrion for them. An outrage on a member of the working class is to be excused or defended. Favors to the capitalist class are to be insisted upon, because they may result in crumbs for the fakir.

Councilmen of Dover, Delaware, object to free mail delivery because it will tend to raise taxes. It will also tend to keep people away from the post-office, and therefore merchants will suffer. In such matters as this New York, Philadelphia, and Boise City, Idaho, are far behind Dover. It would be indeed an interesting sight to watch the population of greater New York lining up at the delivery window to find out whether or not there was any mail for them. It would be to the advantage of merchants could this crowd be turned out on the street daily. Dover has given a valuable hint, a hint that is almost Kangaroocoo in its progressiveness, and other cities should follow in its footsteps.

Alas, and eke alack! which is to say it might have been expected. Some time ago there was formed, amid much trumpeting by the willing drabs known as the "reform press," an association known as the "Woman's National Socialist League." This association was started for no particular purpose excepting that some women wished to do little starting. The "reason" advanced was that the League would give comfort and assistance to the men who were engaged in the work on the political field. But it didn't. Between the date of its formation and its dissolution it was not heard of. Now comes the information that the W.N.S.L. has decided to be no more, ab, never more. This is because the president, Imogene Fales, was offended, and the rest of the women took offense at her offense. The cause of the first offense was that a woman named Abbott, residing in far-off California, decided to form a Woman's National Socialist Union. The two promptly and with much vigor acted as mutual dilatory. After some months of correspondence, criminology and reprimand, each club found that it did not exist. Therefore it rose manfully to the occasion, and resolved, in long and lingering resolutes and therefore, that it was no longer in existence. So falls another prop of Kangaroocoo.

It is rather marvelous that no wise labor fakir has yet come out for the "good roads" movement on the ground that they would be of great benefit to that portion of the working class that is forced to wander in search of employment, and which is known by the name of hoboes.

A Boston juror came drunk into the courtroom the other day, and the judge sentenced him to two months for contempt of court. Perhaps the judge was afraid the juror might be influenced by the evidence.

A minister lost 200 sermons through the carelessness, or the consideration, of a transportation company. Now the minister seeks to recover damages for his loss. If he has already delivered them, then he should not be allowed to recover anything, but neither should he be punished too harshly. If he has not already delivered them, and if he restrains himself from any attempt to recollect what was in the manuscript, and if he does not tell people how good they were and how much was lost to the church, then he should be rewarded.

A Boston juror came drunk into the White House in order to clear the place of rats which now overrun it. Committees from the A. F. of L. must be careful.

TWO LETTERS.

The below two letters deserve editorial space and place. Letter No. 1 is from member of a trades-union, which the "Appeal to Reason" is "leading to Socialism." He has the faith that removes mountains and stumbles at mole hills, but he "can't stand for THE PEOPLE," he says. Letter No. 2 is from one who "reached" his way out of pure and simpledom and out of the Social Democratic, alias "Socialist," party. With this introduction, the two letters are luminous.

Letter No. 1.

Tex., Jan. 20, 1902.

Comrade Dowler,

Chicago, Ill.

Yours 17th: I appreciate the spirit in which you make the kind offer and know that friendship prompts you to do so, but I must say that I've read considerable in the WEEKLY PEOPLE, and while I would gladly assist any socialist paper that I can, that is one paper I cannot stand for. It is the first time I ever have been called a "scab" for belonging to a labor union. It looks to me like a child's angry scream. While I recognize the fact that the unions up to date are far from perfect, still they are the only idea we have that is in working order.

Accordingly, Bryan's boozing of Denis Mulvihill is one more clear case of barking at the moon. The day of the political supremacy of the small producer is gone. He can't open his mouth without uttering his death warrant. The day of Hannaism has come, and that day will not be darkened until the Socialist Labor Party

is built on a plan different from the simpletons—a correct one. In discarding the trades-unionism of to-day and embracing the S. T. & L. A., the working class simply clothes itself in garments of recent cut, throwing aside the moth-eaten worn-out rags of yesterday. If, as you say, the trades-unions have been building since Christ's time, don't you think there is something wrong in the plan when they are getting 50 per cent. less wages now than they did forty or fifty years ago? If they get only 15 per cent. of their product now how long before they will be knocked over by the Universal Trust, and the majority get nothing but rags and starvation as their portion? There is nothing to hinder except the S. L. P., the S. T. & L. A. and their propaganda, which will teach the working class their mission and how to achieve it. Fraterally yours,

A. S. DOWLER.

The above two letters are but a sample of a debate that is going on throughout the country. It is incited by the unbreakable energy of the S. L. P. It is a "boring from without" that is bound

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Correspondents who prefer to appear in print under their names, will attach such name to their communications, besides their own signature and address. None other will be recognized.]

As to the S. T. & L. A.

To the DAILY and WEEKLY PEOPLE—I am keenly interested in the discussion now going on as to the attitude of the S. L. P. towards the S. T. & L. A. and the Trades Union, and I would like to contribute my mite towards mutual enlightenment on the question. I am, however, reluctant as to figuring in the matter while the present way of conducting the discussion is continued. It is certainly an opportune time for the debate to come before the Party, though it would have been better had Reid been more precise in initiating it. The rank and file of the Party should know all about the S. T. & L. A. as it is to-day and as it has been in the past, and they should better understand the relations of the S. L. P. to that organization. If the discussion is to be of any real educational value to Party members it must be laid before them in such a way that they can keep the points of each side clearly in mind, and the arguments as well. Thus far few on either side of the question have paid any attention to the points actually at issue, and have seen fit while they had their pens in hand to stalk all around the field seeking for something to write about. Such a course of procedure is perfectly useless as an eye opener, and the whole discussion might as well be shut off just where it is unless the debaters keep to the merits of the question.

I am in agreement with the Editor as to the real bone of contention, viz.: What should be the attitude of the S. L. P. towards the Trades Union? Expressing the subject in that form, however, makes it too vague. It could be made far more intelligible to the debaters if the question was subdivided somewhat in the following manner:

First—What should be the attitude of the S. L. P. on the subject of the economic organization of Labor? Should it hold such organizations to be needed, or to be wholly needless?

Second—What is the present attitude of the S. L. P. towards the pure and simple trades organization?

Third—What should be the attitude of the S. L. P. towards pure and simple organizations?

Fourth—Does the S. L. P. need the S. T. & L. A. to expose and overthrow the pure and simple organizations?

Fifth—Does the connection of the S. L. P. with the S. T. & L. A. strengthen or weaken the Socialist Movement, and in what way?

Here are many questions, but they practically resolve themselves into one, and I mention them at length in order to suggest thought that may clarify the debate. If the subject is treated from the point of view that these questions suggest, and every thinking member of the Party will, but take a hand, then the attitude of the S. L. P. should assume towards the pure and simple Trades Union and towards economic organizations that profess to be different from the pure and simple Trades Union will be settled undoubtedly to mutual satisfaction.

THOMAS CURRAN.

Porvidence, R. I., January 27.

[It must have been plain last week to the readers that the turn of the discussion tended to degenerate in a snow-ball, rather than to clarify the issue. Comrade Curran evidently realized that. Had he seen the letters that had not yet been published, and most of those that came in since, he would have made much stronger his charge that "few on either side of the question have paid any attention to the points actually at issue." It was in vain that by foot-notes we sought to keep them to the question, and remove wholly irrelevant matter. It has been getting worse and worse. In view of this, Comrade Curran is right that, rather than continue in this way, "the whole discussion might as well be shut off just where it is." Rather than shut it off, however, we shall make one more attempt to elicit a discussion whereby the real point at issue may be ventilated in a manner to be of real value to the Party membership and the readers generally. With this end in view the Curran proposition is hereby adopted. Let the correspondents follow closely the five questions put by Curran. Let each correspondent take up the five questions, one after another, in his letter, and make as concise an argument as he can under each. By following this course, not only will irrelevancy find it hard to squeeze in, but, and above all, the correspondents will have to express themselves not on some points only, but on all the points that are necessary to understand the position they hold. The five questions cover these essential points. So as to avoid foot-notes to the letters, the letters that adhere to the Curran list of questions or points will be published, those that don't will be ruled out. The subject of the debate is so vital that we expect the comrades will aid us in keeping order, and will all join in the discussion.

This rearrangement necessitates the following changes:

1st: Letters must be signed in full, no initials. They will be published in the order in which they come.

2d: Only Party members will be given the floor. Letters from non-Party members may or may not be heretofore, be published, but will not be placed under the head of "As to the S. T. & L. A." and they will be harpooned by us—in the Letter-Box, if nowhere else—as hostile letters have hitherto been.

3d: The letters that have come in—one of which, of course, follows the Curran system—will be returned, if so desired, and stamp is forwarded. The following letters are now in this office:

In favor of the Alliance: J. T. Syracuse, N. Y.; D. M. S., Pittsburgh, Pa.; "Militant," Altoona, Pa.; "Union," Pittsburgh, Pa.; L. A. D., Pittsburgh, Pa.; E. B. M., San Jose, Cal.; "Crank," Malden, Mass.; O. S. C., Columbus, O.; A. M., Columbus, O.; and F. W. Lynn, Mass.

Against the Alliance: W. H. C., Boston, Mass.; and C. K., Boston, Mass.—ED. THE PEOPLE.]

Book for Prince! Book for King!

To the DAILY AND WEEKLY PEOPLE—Prince Henry, on his way to Washington on the night of Sunday

Feb. 23, will pass through the P. R. R. depot in Jersey City. On this occasion the members of the United Singing Society of Hudson County propose to give him a vocal sendoff. There are a great many Germans in Hudson County, the majority of whom no doubt fled from Germany to escape service in the army; yet these same people are falling over one another for a chance to do the toady act when the prince comes.

While the conduct of these people might be passed over in silence it is the conduct of the Kangaroos Social Democrats that deserve chastisement. Many of the alle genossen here have been stirred to their shallow depths by the furore that has been kicked up over the expected royal visit. Of course they are musical. If singing would usher in the Socialist Republic it would have been here long ago. Now I understand that the alle genossen belonging to the singing societies which are to greet the prince with song are busy practising for the event. An S. L. P. man who passed the Social Democratic headquarters the other night, declares that he heard deep-toned voices there singing "Die Wacht am Rhein" and the "Star Spangled Banner." It is presumed that the sturdy singers will greet comrade Henry with these tunes when he sets foot on Jersey soil.

MAENNERCHOR.

Hoboken, N. J. Feb. 1.

Political Corruption in Canada.

To the DAILY AND WEEKLY PEOPLE.—The enclosed has been refused publication by the local "Free Press." The Ransom Norton mentioned in the letter is a moving man recently convicted of ballot-box stuffing in the municipal campaign of first week in January; he is sentenced to six months in the penitentiary. Norton was a Grit Official in a certain sub-division; the election resulted in a victory for the Tory party.

Information published showed that Norton was connected with a group of Grits "with a history," and it is understood that he pleaded "guilty" to save those prominent in his party from exposures in cross-examination. The notoriously rotten nature of capitalist political machinery in London, Ontario has been previously commented on in THE PEOPLE, and the Socialist Labor Party has a particularly difficult task in this continually owing to the corrupt associations of the trades union officials with the Grit and Tory organizations. In July last Comrade L. J. Darch was the S. L. P. candidate in the bye election referred to, when the S. L. P. tracked a gang of Grit pluggers and got them safely cornered for future reference when wanted. Alex. Wootton, local pure and simple correspondent to the Dominion "Labor Gazette" was a Grit official on that occasion. In the recent Norton case, the newly elected Tory was the prosecutor, and the "Free Press," Tory organ has been doing the pharisaical act of righteous indignation at Grit corruption but it does not want to open its columns to the righteous indignation of the S. L. P. at the joint partnership of both Grit and Tory in the degradation of the electorate.

HENRY B. ASHPLANT.

London, Ont., Jan. 31.

[Enclosure.]

Editor "Free Press," London, Ont.: The rascally character of the official machinery operated in elections by the Grit and Tory Political organizations in this city, has once again been made local history in our criminal records.

The fact that in this case, a young man has been victimized and sent to the penitentiary as a result of his faithfulness to the political morality taught him in the school from which he was selected to do the work of his instructor, is not the least infamous among the incidents of local political history.

It would be more than interesting, could it be possible to secure it, to have a transcript of Ransom Norton's mental comments on the political moralizations of the magistrate who made him the scapegoat for a police court lecture on the sacred (?) nature of the ballot in this city. He may have thought there is something more than comic in the popular phrase, "There are others."

That "there are others" is well known to many besides Norton and the latter has perhaps learned by a very painful experience the wretched standard of their morality and its sacred associations.

In that connection, I ask your permission to recall a very remarkable incident that was associated with the so-called re-election of Col. F. B. Leys in July last to the Provincial Legislature. That was known as the "Leys-Darch," or "dam-fish" campaign.

If ever there was a campaign in which the crime as described by Magistrate Love, of "Robbing the citizens of their rights and liberties by low, degraded, and sneaking acts" was wholly despicable and unnecessary, surely that Leys-Darch campaign was the occasion for the machine managers to take a rest.

What does the following incident show? It proves that young Norton was simply a cog in a wheel of a political machine in this city, so saturated with corrupt practice and moral degradation that it never rests when any kind of a campaign is on where a little "work" may count.

To cut a long story short, I refer to the public exposure of criminal practice by well-known citizens, given before several hundreds of people from the Socialist Labor Party's platform, on the market square on Saturday night, August 17th, last, in connection with the Leys-Darch campaign. The local press of that period contains several references to the reported irregularities spoken of by Socialists in the July election (?) and the threatened public naming of known ballot pluggers on that occasion was well advertised for August 17th, at public meetings on the Market Square; so that Col. Leys and his organization had ample notice and opportunity to arrest the speakers, and clear their skirts from contamination with the rogues named from the platform on that occasion as having personated and "plugged" for the Colonel. With many others, I attended the Market Square meeting; and listened to the public naming of some 8 or more well known citizens as guilty of criminal practice as Ransom Norton. The record named of the work done by a certain team owned by a prominent politician named

from the platform), and the work done by the coachman, and two sons, of said prominent politician, all of whom were publicly named on the occasion I refer to, was certainly remarkable; but, not less remarkable is the fact that sworn affidavits proving the charges there publicly made have never been called into court by the friends of the parties there named.

With such facts on record, the victimization of young Norton is particularly shameful. When it is shown that our political organizations are graduating schools for the penitentiary under the patronage of our "Prominent" citizens, it is about time for a parent with some decent consideration for his boy's future associations to consider the higher duties of citizenship, and withdraw his political affiliation with degraded practitioners, who tamper with a young man's integrity in the political sphere, and expect him to be honest in other matters.

Yours respectfully,
HENRY B. ASHPLANT.

As to Sir Hildebrand of St. Louis.

To the DAILY and WEEKLY PEOPLE.—It was with much interest that I read the article that appeared in THE PEOPLE of January 4 under the caption "Boring from Without." To those not acquainted with the exact situation it may appear as if Mr. Hildebrand simply acted in his capacity as a labor-fakir. But there is another motive that led Mr. Hildebrand to vote for a resolution favoring government building of warships. That was the economic motive. Mr. Hildebrand is in business. He runs one-horse shoe repair shop, which places him in the category of what is termed the petit bourgeois class.

The class which wants the capitalist government to run certain industries, so that the surplus squeezed out of the government wage slaves may be used to reduce the taxes of these little labor skinners and gain for themselves another lease of life. Mr. Hildebrand is no exception to the rule, and when he voted for the resolution above-mentioned it is apparent that he had but one single thought, lower taxes.

Wishing to advance his bourgeoisie economic interest through political action Mr. Hildebrand joined the Kangaroo Social Democratic Party, which represents the interest of the class to which he belongs. Comrades Murphy, Meier and Kiefer, and the other three friends whose names are signed to the article referred to, joined the Kangaroo Party thinking it was a Socialist organization, and after two years of hard work "boring from within" left the bogus movement, and now armed as they are with S. L. P. education they are determined to smash the bogus thing to pieces and on its ruins plant the banner of the only proletarian movement—the S. L. P.

The working class in their battle for emancipation will get no help from the big capitalist class, middle capitalist class nor the petit capitalist class, and after very careful consideration I venture to say that it will get little or no help from those members of the working class who have a ricketty shack which they nickname a house, which has been so fittingly termed the delusion of property. Some of the comrades may say: "Hold on! You are going too far!" No; I am not. I have been a member of Section St. Louis from the time it was a "Gesang Verein" (Singing Society) and an agent for the Brauer Union, up to its signature of one of the Secretaries of the Council.

A member arose and asked when the Union had endorsed the position of the Single Tax League in the matter of the renewal of the water contract between the City of New Haven and the New Haven Water Company (which the single-taxers are opposed to and are holding indignation meetings against).

He was told by Delegate Baerhalter that "the Delegates from the Cigarmakers went to the Trades Council unstructured and acted according to their judgment in the best interests of the citizens of New Haven." At a mass-meeting in Music Hall about ten days ago, held by the Single Taxers, Frank Horan, President of the T. C., was the last freak on the bill and he made the statement that he was representing the Trades Council and every union in the T. C. was a unit for municipal ownership by tax-payers. So here we have the Kangaroo pictured complete: "Enemies of Labor Fakirs," but not desirous of preventing them from faking: "favoring the working class," but bucking up the tax payers! Verily policies makes strange bed-fellows!

Comrades, let us do our duty. It would be a crime as black as any ever committed by a capitalist to withhold our redeeming ideas from workingmen.

SECTION ALBANY COUNTY.
Albany, N. Y., Jan. 30.

That "First Socialist Mayor" Pitchforked.

To the DAILY and WEEKLY PEOPLE.—On Sunday afternoon last, February 2, John C. Chase, the Kangaroo Social Democratic ex-Mayor of Haverville, Mass., held forth to an audience of about thirty-five Kangaroos, four Socialists and one stranger. During the course of his remarks, Chase made the observation that the Trade Union has not accomplished anything for the working-class and that he commends it for all the good it has done.

At the close of his talk he said that he throws the meeting open for discussion, and although he does not know all about Socialism he was willing to take on all he did know.

After one or two questions had been asked with regard to his previous statement on trades-unionism, Comrade E. Moonlight put the speaker under one of his peculiar cross-examinations, as follows:

Mr. Chase, you are an ex-Mayor of Haverville? A. Yes.

Q. Are you familiar with the city and its surroundings? A. Yes.

Q. With regard to the lay of the land, is it level or is it hilly? A. Well, there are some hills.

Q. Any swamps in the city? A. Well, no.

Q. Outside the city? A. Yes.

Q. How far outside? A. O. about two miles.

Q. But none in the city? A. No.

Q. Do you read the "Worker"? A. Yes.

Q. Did you read it when it was still called the "People"? A. Yes.

Q. Do you remember a statement in this "Worker" to the effect that the reason Carey voted for the \$15,000 appropriation for the armory in Haverville that would place them on a level with the other cities of the state? A. No.

He arose to represent the power of organized Labor," and finished his highly audible—one minute exhibition—by stating: "We should not be too hard on wealthy corporations as the working people could not live without them."

Another freak, who came on for the occasion from New York was introduced by the chairman (who was formerly a Republican). Now a rampant Democrat said to be "looking for something" as a speaker from New York with an International reputation, Professor Herbert S. Casson. And it was Herbie all right,—as cadaverous looking as ever. With his hair pompadour on his coat collar. He consumed about 20 minutes telling about 10 funny gags which tickled the ribs of the monkeys in Noah's Ark. Throwing a bouquet at the "union victory" in Ansonia (election of Charters for Mayor), and making the alarming statement that, "Everything seemed to be going backward except the armory sanitary, it was necessary to drain this swamp?" A. I don't remember it.

Q. If such a statement was made, was it true or false, and if true, how do you reconcile it to your statement that there was no swamp in the city thereabouts?

A. WELL, THE REPAIRS MADE AFTER THE SWAMP WAS DRAINED.

Q. Now, with regard to the state organization of the militia, is this paid or volunteer? A. Volunteer.

Q. And is it subject to be called out by the Governor of the State in times of riot and strike to quell these? A. YES.

Q. And are these the people for whom Carey voted this \$15,000 appropriation to repair their armory? A. YES.

Finding their speaker trapped several Kangaroos jumped up and commenced shouting, saying that these De Leonites only break up their meetings and raise a disturbance. The chairman then took his cue and said he would not allow the questioner to ask any more questions, even if the speaker was willing to answer them, and had intended to take the floor away from the comrade before he "went too far."

S.L.P.
New York, Feb. 3.

PRESS COMMITTEE, Section New Haven, S.L.P.

A Way to Move With Giant Strides.

To the DAILY and WEEKLY PEOPLE.—Do not fail to pay close attention to what follows—READ AND FONDER over it, for it will enable us to move with giant strides.

In spreading our ideas we are often confronted with the problem, "How can we reach the people?" Many times it happens that after much advertising and big expense, we have small audiences or none at all. Public meetings are in many places allowed only during the campaign. To spread our leaflets is one way, but certainly not the best. It is also certain that, if we do not get in proper contact with the masses, we cannot expect to grow. A discussion of the subject, therefore, is perfectly in order, and our endeavor here shall be to call the attention, not only of individual comrades, but of Sections, State Committees, and the National Executive Committee, to a plan, that we of Al-

lany are pursuing; hoping that it will be emulated throughout the land.

Our aim is gradually to come in personal contact with every laborer of the city. We say if the people will not come to us, let us go to them. The plan is simply this:

Several comrades have volunteered to go from house to house (every evening, if possible, from Monday to Friday inclusive, and from seven to nine o'clock each evening), canvassing for the WEEKLY PEOPLE. They do not look for yearly or half-yearly subscribers, (though of course such would not be refused), but for such as are willing to read the paper at two cents per copy, delivered every Sunday morning, and cash on delivery. Marks well the points: TWO CENTS PER COPY, and CASH ON DELIVERY. On that plan you can get probably fifty readers to one on the method of asking a quarter or half-dollar in advance, especially since most people visited will be strangers to the canvasser. Other comrades see to it that readers thus gotten are served regularly. This plan, apparently so simple, will, we think, prove to be the giant that will arouse the American people to Socialism. It enables us, not only to work for the WEEKLY, but to talk and argue for Socialism, to sell literature and to make connections for leaflet agitation, etc.

